CLAIMS

We claim:

1. 1.   A method for operating a client to establish a network
2. connection with a server, comprising the steps of:

3.   negotiating environment parameters for establishing a
4.   connection-oriented connection with said server;

5.   said parameters including a request for said server to
6.   provide a confirmation record; and

7.   responsive to said request, receiving said confirmation
8.   record.

1. 2.   The method of claim 1, said request being an implicit
2. request.

1. 3.   The method of claim 1, said request being an explicit
2. request.

1   4.   The method of claim 1, said confirmation record

2   including a device name assigned by said server to said

3   client connection.

1   5.   The method of claim 4, said confirmation record

2   including a response code indicative of the cause of a

3   failed connection.

1   6.   The method of claim 5, responsive to said response

2   code, retrying said negotiating step.

1   7.   The method of claim 1, said client being a Telnet

2   client, and said negotiating step including negotiating new

3   environment and terminal type parameters.

1   8.   A method for operating a server in a network,

2   comprising the steps of:

3   receiving a connection request from a client;

4   inviting said client to negotiate environment

5   parameters;

6   responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said

7   parameters;

8   assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

9   responsive to receiving a request for a confirmation

10   record, providing to said client a confirmation record

11   including, for a successful connection, said virtual

12   device name and, for an unsuccessful connection, a

13   return code indicative of the cause of failure of said

14   connection.

1   9. A system, comprising:

2   a client;

3   a server;

4   a connection network for interconnecting said client

5   and server; and

6   said server selectively operable responsive to a

7   request for a confirmation record from said client

8   during negotiations for a connection oriented

9   connection for providing in said confirmation record to

10   said client, for a successful connection, a virtual

11   device name assigned by said server to said client and,

12   for an unsuccessful connection, a return code

13   indicative of a cause of failure of said connection.

1   10. The system of claim 9, said server being a Telnet

2   server and said client a Telnet client.

1   11. The system of claim 10, said connection oriented

2   protocol being a Telnet protocol according to which new

3   environment parameters including an express or implicit

4   request for said confirmation record may be negotiated.

1   12. A program storage device readable by a machine,

2   tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3   machine to perform method steps for operating a client to

4   establish a network connection with a server, said method

5   steps comprising:

6   negotiating environment parameters for establishing a

7   connection-oriented connection with said server;

8   said parameters including a request for said server to

9   provide a confirmation record; and

10   responsive to said request, receiving said confirmation

11   record.

1   13. A program storage device readable by a machine,

2   tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a

3   machine to perform method steps for operating a server in a

4   network, said method steps comprising:

5   receiving a connection request from a client;

6   inviting said client to negotiate environment

7   parameters;

8   responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said

9   parameters;

10   assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

11   responsive to receiving a request for a confirmation

12   record, providing to said client a confirmation record

13   including, for a successful connection, said virtual

14   device name and, for an unsuccessful connection, a

15   return code indicative of the cause of failure of said

16   connection.

1 14. A computer program product or computer program element

2 for operating a client to establish a network connection

3 with a server according to method steps comprising:

4   negotiating environment parameters for establishing a

5   connection-oriented connection with said server;

6   said parameters including a request for said server to

7   provide a confirmation record; and

8   responsive to said request, receiving said confirmation

9   record.

1 15. A computer program product or computer program element

2 for operating a server in a network according to method

3 steps comprising:

4   receiving a connection request from a client;

5   inviting said client to negotiate environment

6   parameters;

7   responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said

8   parameters;

9   assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

10   responsive to receiving a request for a confirmation

11   record, providing to said client a confirmation record

12   including, for a successful connection, said virtual

13   device name and, for an unsuccessful connection, a

14   return code indicative of the cause of failure of said

15   connection.